

July 12, 2010

The Common Council met as the Water Utility Board at 7:00 p.m. on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Tucker presiding and members Askren, Curtis, and Higgins attending. Board members Fuelling and Hoehn were not present. Others attending were Supt. Gray; Chief Waters; Supt. Danny Moss; Rita Moss; Bill Newman and Carl Culiver – Posey County Economic Development Partnership; Judy and David Whitten; Nancy Sexton; Larry Williams; Kim Goebel; Pam Robinson – Posey County News; and arriving during the meeting, Sara Manifold – Mount Vernon Democrat; and Chief Beloat.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minutes of their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. He added if not, he entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented. Board member Askren moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker requested action on the claims presented.

Board member Askren moved the claims presented be allowed for payment. Seconded by Board member Curtis.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

*****CLAIMS*****

Sara Manifold arrived at the meeting.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the report of the Water Supt.

Supt. Gray stated painting on the water tower is progressing, and the contractor has even been working weekend – including July 4th when they worked until dark. He then stated they have had to replace the ladder inside the tower that is used to access the tank, it was pretty much gone and they replaced part of the pipe that the tank itself actually sits on. He concluded by stating other than that, everything else seems to be running smoothly.

Mayor Tucker asked if Chairwoman Askren had a report ?

Chairwoman Askren stated she has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if the Clerk-Treasurer had any Communications for the Board ?

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman replied not at this time.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any Legals for consideration ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Board ?

Kim Goebel approached the podium and stated she lives at 1000 Locust Street and while they were gone on vacation last week, someone turned their hose on and flooded their backyard, and part of the neighbors backyard as well. She added when she found out, Sunday, she called the police department and did file a police report. She asked for help on the water bill which she is sure will be rather large, and added as she has since found out, they are not the only ones this has happened to recently.

Board member Askren asked if she has received the bill yet ?

Mrs. Goebel replied no, not yet.

Supt. Gray added she will actually not receive this bill until September 1.

Board member Higgins stated the water department can make a note to watch the account.

Board member Askren moved the bill be adjusted and a note be made to watch the bill. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Board voting as follows:

Askren – yes; Fuelling – absent; Hoehn – absent;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Board ?

David Whitten stated he is in charge of sound for River Days and he would like to thank Supt. Gray for his help and time and materials on the placement of the underground conduit that was needed. He added Comm. Maynard should be commended for his efforts as well, it was a joint effort between both departments and he is very thankful.

Mayor Tucker agreed they are both helping tremendously on the riverfront project as well. He then asked if anyone else in the Audience wished to address the Board ?

There was no response.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?

Board member Higgins stated she would like to discuss mooring signs at the riverfront. She stated the ordinance they are currently operating under is from 1948.

Chief Belloat arrived at the meeting.

Board member Higgins continued by stating she would like to consider an ordinance that would impose fines, as damage to the intakes could result. She added they already are having some erosion issues there and that ordinance just needs cleaned up and updated. She then stated they need to protect the intakes with an ordinance that has a bite to it. She concluded by stating she will get with Attorney Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn.

Board member Curtis moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Board member Askren.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

John Tucker
Mayor

ATTEST;

Cristi L. Sitzman
Clerk-Treasurer

The Common Council met immediately following the Water Utility Board on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Tucker presiding and members Askren, Curtis, and Higgins attending. Council members Fuelling and Hoehn were not present. Others attending were Supt. Gray; Chief Waters; Supt. Danny Moss; Rita Moss; Bill Newman and Carl Culiver – Posey County Economic Development Partnership; Judy and David Whitten; Nancy Sexton; Larry Williams; Pam Robinson – Posey County News; Sara Manifold – Mount Vernon Democrat; and Chief Beloat.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minutes of their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. He added if not, he entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented. Councilwoman Higgins moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented. Seconded by Councilwoman Askren.
Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the reports of the Standing Committees.

Street & Light Chairman Fuelling was not present.
Comm. Maynard was not present.

Police & Dog Chairwoman Hoehn was not present.
Chief Beloat stated he has no report.
Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?
There were none.

Fire Chairman Curtis stated there have been 21 runs since their last meeting.
Chief Waters stated he has no report.
Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?
There were none.

Sewer Chairwoman Higgins stated she has no report.
Supt. Moss stated he has no report.
Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?
There were none.

Mayor Tucker stated they have the Financial Report before them and any questions could be directed to Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman.

Mayor Tucker asked if the Clerk-Treasurer had any Communications for the Council ?
Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman replied not at this time.

Mayor Tucker stated on the Legal portion of the Agenda is the 2nd reading of the proposed ordinance of Additional Appropriations in the EDIT, COIT, and State Gaming Funds. He asked if Council wished to take action ?

Councilman Curtis moved the ordinance pass second reading. Seconded by Councilwoman Askren.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Askren – yes; Fuelling – absent; Hoehn – absent;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Council ?

Bill Newman stated he is with the Posey County Economic Development Partnership (PCEDP) and he is present tonight to request support from the City. He presented the following Mission Statement:

The Posey County Economic Development Partnership, Inc. was formed to promote the economic climate of Posey County by attracting new business entities and retaining those that are currently located in the county. By strengthening and expanding the County's economic base, residents will enjoy an increase in job opportunities and improved standard of living with expanded services/products.

The goal of the Partnership is to identify and inventory possible commercial and industrial sites within Posey County. By keeping the inventory current, the Partnership can more readily attract new business and help existing businesses wishing to expand/relocate their facilities. The Partnership will encourage expansion and improvement of the infrastructure such as water, sewage, utilities, communication and technology.

The Posey County Economic Development Partnership, Inc. will also work closely with the Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana and The Chamber of Commerce of Southwestern Indiana to promote the strengths of Posey County without duplicating efforts.

He continued by stating he has also included in their hand out a job description for the Executive Director they are in the process of hiring. He stated they received 40 resumes and interviewed four. Of those four, two were from southwest Indiana and two were from central Indiana. He then stated they have made an offer to their #1 candidate. He continued by stating they wanted an individual with an economic development background and they felt that the local candidates did not possess that expertise.

Mr. Newman continued by stating the Partnership has also started work on an economic development comprehensive plan, as the current plan they did not feel was detailed enough. He added in today's economy they need an individual for the Director who can think outside of the box – the world is changing and luckily the community does have the river traffic, and that has been very good to this community. He added right now, the county needs jobs, and people to live here. He conclude by stating he is asking that the Council support the Partnership's efforts by making a formal commitment this evening, it would be very much appreciated. He then asked if there were any questions ?

Board member Higgins stated, in her opinion, there are lots of groups out there that seem to be doing the same thing, why is this organization any different from them ?

Mr. Newman replied the Chamber's job is not to attract new business; and the Coalition is more of a regional group, concerned with the needs of many counties, with a budget in excess of \$1M. He then stated the Coalition is the "first hit" when someone is interested in locating a business in Posey County,

and the Partnership works with them to sell them on Posey County. He then stated the Coalition doesn't just push Posey County, they push for the counties in their region.

Councilman Curtis asked if their Executive Director will live in Posey County ?

Mr. Newman replied yes, that person has committed to live in Posey County, maybe not in a purchased home, but renting.

Nancy Sexton questioned the salary (around \$85,000) by asking if that is typical for this type of position, is that normal ?

Mr. Newman replied yes, and asked if she feels that is high ?

Ms. Sexton replied yes, she feels that is high. She then stated she also wants nice for Posey County, but yes, that is high.

Larry Williams stated this person is also required to have a degree and comes with "contacts" as well.

Councilman Curtis asked if \$85,000 was the salary that was offered ?

Mr. Newman replied that is the high end of the range.

Councilman Curtis asked what benefits would be offered ?

Mr. Newman replied health benefits, a retirement plan (5% of salary in the form of an IRA), and reimbursement of mileage. He then stated the budget he has given Council is not actual, and the offer made to the Director candidate was on the lower end of the scale, not the \$85,000.

Councilman Curtis stated with two members not present this evening, he does not feel they can make a commitment tonight.

Mr. Newman concluded by stating the town has to invest in itself to be successful. He then thanked Council for their time.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone else in the Council wished to address the Council ?

Carl Culiver stated Mr. Newman did a good job of explaining their organization, and though he really has dog in this fight, he will relate a story. He told of years ago having meetings in Indy at 8 am their time, 7 am Mt. Vernon time. When he asked if they could move the meetings to around 10 am to give folks time to get there, they wondered where he was from. When he said southwest Indiana, they thought Bloomington – that is the point. People need to realize there is life SOUTH of Bloomington and southwest Indiana needs to be able to compete. He asked that the Council give very serious consideration to supporting the Partnership – to help Mt. Vernon and Posey County grow.

Mr. Larry Williams approached and stated he can understand the confusion in all of the different organizations seemingly doing the same thing – it IS confusing and there needs to be one focal point. He added right now they are all in the middle of a bad economy, though it is turning around. That is the purpose of the Partnership – to be the one person that folks go to to find out all about Posey County and Mt. Vernon. He added the salary is a lot of money, yes, but you get what you pay for. He asked the Council to please help out the Partnership.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any other comments ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the reports of the Districts.

1st District Councilwoman Askren stated she has no report.

2nd District Councilman Fuelling was not present.

3rd District Councilwoman Hoehn was not present.

4th District Councilman Curtis stated he has no report.

Councilwoman-at-Large Higgins stated due to Phase I, Locust to Main is ONE WAY going east to west. She has seen many cars trying to go west down that one lane. She wondered if more signs could be put up and also at the alleys. They need to be marked as well. She then stated about the 4-way STOP on Sherman and Locust – she has had some calls from folks that are very pleased with that.

Mayor Tucker stated if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn.

Councilwoman Askren moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Councilwoman Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

John Tucker
Mayor

ATTEST:

Cristi L. Sitzman
Clerk-Treasurer